

MINUTES
GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING
TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
1917 IH-35 SOUTH, BOARD ROOM, AUSTIN, TX
May 24, 2012 – 9:30 A.M.

Call to Order. Committee Chair Daniel Wong, Ph.D., P.E., called the General Issues Committee meeting to order at 10:12 a.m. on May 24, 2012, at the Texas Board of Professional Engineers (TBPE), 1917 South Interstate 35, Austin, Texas. (Note: All votes are unanimous unless otherwise indicated.)

1. Roll call and welcome visitors.

Daniel Wong, Ph.D., P.E.	Chair
Carry Ann Baker	Member
Bobby Balli, P.E.	Member

A quorum was present. Veena Mohan, Assistant Attorney General, was present to provide legal counsel. Mr. Edmundo Gonzalez, Jr., P.E., Emeritus Board Member, was also present.

The following staff members were present:

Lance Kinney, P.E.	Executive Director
Priscilla Pipho, MPA	Deputy Executive Director
C.W. Clark, P.E.	Director of Compliance & Enforcement
David Howell, P.E.	Director of Licensing
Jeff Mutscher	Director of Finance
Charles Pennington, P.E.	Staff Engineer
Janet Sobieski	Director of IT/Communications
Mason Schoolfield	IT
Dewey Helmcamp, III, JD	Staff Attorney
Dorothy Gonzales	Executive Assistant

Visitors. Peyton McKnight, American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC)–Texas; Terry Sams, Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT); Terry Bilderback, Texas Society of Professional Engineers (TSPE); Mathew Ryan, Allisonworth and Porter.

2. Public comment. None.

3. Discuss and possibly approve the February 15, 2012 General Issues Committee Minutes.

4. Discuss and possibly accept the March 2, 2011, Government Advisory Committee Minutes.

5. March 23, 2012, Government Advisory Committee (GAC) Meeting Update.

Mr. Ballí stated that it was a successful and enjoyable meeting. They discussed the outreach program and TBPE's strategic plan. Outcome was taken well with members. Mr. Clark commented that these members are very interactive; a good mix of professional engineers and inspection/permitting side (approvals) from government entities. One goal is to get involvement from more government entities. Mrs. Pipho added that the committee members offered several suggestions for the strategic plan including the Strength, Weakness, Opportunities, and Threat (SWOT) Analysis from the group. Overall it was a very active and productive meeting.

6. Discuss and possibly accept the January 29, 2010, Industry Advisory Committee Minutes.

7. Discuss and possibly accept the March 2, 2011, Industry Advisory Committee Discussion.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Ballí/Baker) to approve agenda items 3, 4, 6, and 7 as submitted. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

8. TBPE Security Discussion.

- **Board Meetings/Lobby Area.**

Mr. Kinney commented that at the last Board meeting there was discussion about board and lobby security, and the possibility of having a law enforcement official be present at the Board and/or committee meetings. The staff researched the cost. He reported that there is a minimum of four (4) hours for an official to provide security, and the cost would be \$40-\$45 an hour. It would be at the discretion of the Board if they would like to have security available. He suggested that security be considered on a case-by-case basis. Dr. Wong responded that this information would be brought back to the Regular Quarterly Board meeting on May 24, 2012, for discussion and consideration. Mr. Kinney added that another concern was the security of the lobby area. Staff has looked in to options for adding an additional door as an access or exit door for the receptionist. It is not currently in the budget. Staff was directed to put together the lobby area redesign and bring back along with cost for the Committee to consider and recommend to the Board for approval at the next scheduled meeting.

- **IT Security.**

Ms. Sobieski reviewed the diagram included as an exhibit with the Committee members. She explained TBPE's IT security features for both internal and external communication coming in to our system. She added that all printed documents are destroyed by the secure data destruction company hired by the Board. The Board's network has been audited multiple times by the State Auditor's Office and the Department Information Resources (DIR). There has been no successful finding of any security breaches in the last five years.

9. **Discuss and possibly act on the following proposed rule change(s) in accordance with the Texas Board of Professional Engineers' 4 year Rule Review.**

- **Chapter 131: Organization and Administration.**

Mr. Helmcamp commented that staff is recommending the Committee recommend to the full Board to adopt Chapter 131: Organization and Administration as written as to comply with the four (4) year rule review required by state agencies. Staff identified one specific change in §131.53 which Mr. Howell will review with the Committee.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Ballí/Baker) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on May 24, 2012, to adopt Chapter 131: Organization and Administration. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

- **§131.53 – Minutes.**

Mr. Howell reported that the proposed rule change is to make it consistent with recordings of the Board meetings to meet the records retention schedule.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Ballí/Baker) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on May 24, 2012, to approve the proposed changes to §131.53, Minutes to be posted in the Texas Register as presented. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

10. **March 23, 2012, Industry Advisory Committee Update.**

Mr. Kinney reported that the Industry Advisory Committee was very well attended and was a successful meeting. The Advisory Committee discussed the strategic plan, and made recommendations to the staff on how to go about the plan, and provided consultant information. The Advisory Committee also adopted a new governance structure of officers and body of the Advisory Committee to make their meetings successful. Mr. Nadkarni added that the meeting was very informative.

11. **Update on Texas Windstorm Inspectors.**

Mr. Kinney mentioned that all the statutory requirements are in place. The Committee was informed that TBPE has received 86 applications, and out of the 86, 32 have been approved to be on the TBPE Windstorm list. Staff is in communication with TDI regarding their rule changes.

12. Update on Sunset Review.

Mrs. Pipho informed the Committee that the initial meeting with Sunset Review Team is July 9th. Mr. Kinney added that the initial hearings are in November, and the decision meeting is in December.

13. Issues for consideration and schedule next meeting.

Dr. Wong commented that if there were any issue to be considered for the General Issues Committee, they may be sent to staff.

Adjourn.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Ballí/Baker) to adjourn the meeting at 10:34 am. A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

Date committee approved as submitted:

August 16, 2012

Date Board accepted:

August 16, 2012